

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 27, 1997      LB 424

CLERK:      (LB) 424, Mr. President, by Senator Landis. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 16, referred to the Health Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Landis, to open on LB 424.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Senator Wesely. This bill went before the Health and Human Services Committee and was reported out unanimously. It was brought to me by the...actually, I came across it, I think, in the annual report, in the Juvenile Services area, and said that I was interested in working on the issue. Juvenile Services Act is an act that places under the Crime Commission a group of people who are in position to give out grants in recognition of plans created by local service providers to handle kids who are in trouble with the law. Adult jails, lock ups, correctional facilities, incarceration...those are one set of alternatives. The work of the Juvenile Services Act is to provide a different set of alternatives. Now, it's been up and running for a couple of years, and in that shakedown period, Juvenile Services has found some ways that they could be more efficient. First, they find that they have more information than what they need required by law and people who are coming to them with grants have to create a plan, and then they have to create a grant application and, in fact, a lot of information from one is also required to be in the other. So the proposed changes clarify and consolidate the contents of the plan, and thereby allow less overlap, less book work. Secondly, the bill says specifically to think of Juvenile Services Act Funds, these grants, as seed money only. These are not entitlements, these are not meant to be permanent creations of state-supported services. This is grant money to get parties to work together and to come in concert with each other and make plans. Third, this strikes the committee's power for rule and reg. making. That's kind of a reversal of trend. However, since they're under the Crime Commission and the Crime Commission has rule and reg. authority, they said, look, we can live with what their powers are. We don't need separated rule and reg. authority. Go ahead and repeal our rule and reg. authority. Fourth, the Supreme Court, in the State ex rel.